

27 September 1959

✓ *ack*  
 Mr. Bob Cummings/

Dear Mr. Cummings:

We have been studying with interest the proposals put forward in your letter of 2 September 1959.

Frankly, I am in a difficult position with regard to the proposal, as up to the present time I have consistently declined to give any approval or sponsorship for TV or radio programs dealing with the Agency's activities and I am afraid that I will have to follow the same course in this particular case.

Naturally, the existence of the CIA is known and its various functions and there is no prohibition against mentioning it as the press does, even more frequently than I might wish. However, this is a free country and by and large the press and other media of publicity have in general been very understanding of our problems, which places us in a somewhat different situation than the Air National Guard and other more public and publicized organizations.

I know of the serious and effective character of your work and should welcome the opportunity of seeing you, if you should be in Washington.

Faithfully yours,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles  
 Director

O/DCI/SJGrogan:abi 15 Sept 1959

Rewritten: O/DCI/[ ] rad

Rewritten: DCI/AWD/jl

Orig - Addressee

1 - DCI

1 - DDCI

1 - Col. Grogan w/basic

1 - FMC; I. J. FYI.

1 - ER

DOCUMENT NO.

NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☒

☐ DECLASSIFIED

CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S C

NEXT REVIEW DATE: *13*

AUTH: *2*

DATE: 13 SEP 1959 REVIEWER: *[Signature]*

(EXECUTIVE SECRETARY)

Executive Registry

11-7413-4

O/DCI/SJGrogan:abi (15 Sep 59)  
Rewritten OIG/LBK/drm (23 Sep 59)

**Distribution:**

Original - Addressee

1 - DCI

1 - DDCI

1 - Col. Grogan w/basic

1 - ER ✓

1 - IG chrono

29 SEP 1959

Mr. Bob Cummings



Dear Mr. Cummings:

We have been studying with interest the proposals put forward in your letter of 2 September 1959. Your suggestion of a channel of instruction from the Central Intelligence Agency through the Air National Guard to the principal character is indeed an intriguing one; however, it poses certain difficult problems as far as we are concerned.

As you may know, a large portion of our responsibilities concerns activities outside the United States. Consequently, we are not in a very good position to offer advice or suggestions regarding these activities which would be useful to you. Having seen some of your programs, and knowing your reputation, I am sure that you would want these activities to have a touch of reality and a sense of conviction. At this particular time I am afraid we cannot help much in this regard.

It is quite possible that at some date in the future we might be able to work out something with you. I know that the theme of intelligence operations has a wide appeal, and can appreciate your interest in using it. We will bear in mind your thoughts in this regard and should the situation change, I can assure you that we will let you know. Thank you very much for writing me. I am sorry that we cannot be more helpful at the moment.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles

Director

STAT

Mr. Bob Cummings

Dear Mr. Cummings:

Thank you for your letter of 2 September 1959 requesting permission to use in a TV series "a theoretical channel of instruction" from the CIA, "through the Air National Guard," to the principal character in the series "in which certain activities of the Agency could be simulated."

I sincerely regret that I cannot extend CIA co-operation to you in this venture for various reasons involving the national security. In addition, I might comment that the proposed format would be entirely erroneous insofar as it purported to represent the CIA.

I appreciate your writing me concerning your proposed series and reiterate my regrets that we cannot assist you in any way.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

O/DCI/SJGrogan:abi 15 Sep 59

Rewritten: O/DCI [redacted] rad 16 Sep 59

Distribution:

Orig - Addressee

- 1 - DCI
- 1 - DDCI
- 1 - Col. Grogan w/basic
- 1 - FMC
- 1 - ER

ER 11 - 7413

Mr. Robert Cummings

Dear Mr. Cummings:

Thank you for your letter of 2 September 1959 requesting permission to use in a TV series "a theoretical channel of instruction" from the CIA, "through the Air National Guard," to the principal character in the series, "in which certain activities of the Agency could be simulated."

Since this is a secret and sensitive Agency, I regret that your request must be denied, not only because of reasons of national security, but also because the proposed format would be false insofar as it represented the CIA.

Your checking with me on this proposed series is appreciated. I am indeed sorry that there can be no CIA cooperation.

Sincerely,

*SJG*  
O/DCI/SJGrogan:abi (15 Sept 59)

Distribution:

Orig - Addressee

1 - DCI (via reading)

1 - DDCI

-1 - ER

2 - SJG *24/30* *15 33 BH, 28*

Allen W. Dulles  
Director